

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS

JULY 2025



THANK YOU to all who participated in our 2025 VBS. We had 3 great days with about 54 children learning why Jesus is so famous. He is God's Son given to the world. He died to take our sins on the cross. And he conquered death. Thanks to the adult volunteers: Lindsey Vorm (preschool), Becky Chipman (Bible study), DeAnn Nielsen (crafts), Craig Olson (games), Jean Whitefield, Donna Nelson, Patty Allen, Dave Greve, Jocelyn Cheek, Cheryl Chipman, Julie Vorm. Thanks to the kitchen team: Sandy Nelson, Cathy Murray, Myrna Havick, Kris Olson-Harmon, Linda Mosher, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen, and Joyce Folley. Thanks to our youth helpers: Angel Stern, Grant Chipman, Will Chipman, Willie Adem, and Peter Adem. Thanks to all who donated the snacks, cookies, and money. Thanks to the kids who really make it fun.

YOUTH ENSEMBLE: ILC is looking for youth to join a youth music ensemble. Ryan Meyer will lead young musicians (7th grade and above) to contribute their musical gifts to our worship services in preludes, Communion music, accompaniment, and in whatever way youth would like to participate. There will be an organizational meeting in the fall. Hopefully we will have lots of great music this fall and for Christmas. Contact Ryan Meyer (ryanjamesmeyer@gmail.com) or Becky Chipman (jbchip@harlannet.com) or Pastor Phil (peacephillip@gmail.com).

WORSHIP IN JULY

July 5-6	The Privilege of Giving 2 Corinthians 8	Communion
July 12-13	Preaching the Gospel to Yourself - Alistair Begg	
July 19-20	The Joy of Generosity 2 Corinthians 9	Communion
July 27 No Saturday service	Guest Preacher Shari Munyon	
August 3 No Saturday service	Abundance Luke 12:13-21	Communion Guests from Tanzania



Dear Friends in Christ,

I will be making a trip to Africa this month with Rick Chipman and Patty Allen. Our trip has two purposes. First, we are going to a refugee camp in Western Ethiopia where many refugees from South Sudan live. Our South Sudanese friends in Harlan have family and friends in that camp. They all send money back to the camp to provide food and other necessities for refugees. Several members of Immanuel have committed to sending a monthly gift to provide food supplements for the refugees there.

Feeding hungry children is central to the mission of the church. Our mission is to tell the world of the love of God given to us in Jesus. But we can't tell people about the love of God without first showing people the love of God at work through us. Jesus fed crowds of hungry people and he has provided his Church with the resources to do the same. We live in a hungry world, and as our government is cutting back on feeding the hungry, now is the time for the Church to take up its calling to feed the hungry.

We have asked the local churches around the Sherkole refugee camp to organize a committee to use our gifts to purchase and share food. During our brief time in Ethiopia, we plan to meet with the committee, tour the camp, and discuss how best to use the funds that we will be providing each month.

Over \$6000 has been donated through the first 6 months of 2025 for this program. I am very grateful to everyone who has contributed either in an annual gift or in monthly gifts. It would be helpful if we could know how much Immanuel members plan to give so that we can budget a consistent amount each month.

This month we will start a list in the church office to keep track of how much members plan to contribute. I would ask everyone who has contribute or who plans to contribute to call the church office and let us know how much you plan to give for the year 2025.

Then we can divide that amount by 12 each month and provide a regular donation.

We will spend a little over a day at the refugee camp and then we will travel on to Tanzania to celebrate our 20-year partnership with the Lutheran Church in Kidugala. I was there in 2015 and enjoyed getting to know our mission partners there. This year will be an opportunity to affirm our friendship and the mission we share. Then the hope is that we will be bringing back with us 3 ambassadors from Kidugala for our celebration of our 20-year friendship and partnership.

Our 20-year relationship with Kidugala and our new opportunities in the Sherkole refugee camp are gifts of the Holy Spirit who calls God's people into the mission of sharing the grace of God with the world.

Yours in Christ, *Phil Nielsen*



Happy Birthday to the following:

Richard Daberkow will be 81 on July 1.
 Carolyn Hursey who will be 84 on July 7.
 Maxine Hillers will be 82 on July 9.
 Marilyn Burger who will be 90 on July 29.
 Sharon Daberkow will be 81 on July 30.
 Harry Priest will be 80 on July 12

Happy Anniversary to the following:

Gayl and Dalton Jensen celebrate their 53rd anniversary on July 22.
 Terry and Stacy Torneten celebrate their 25th anniversary off July 1.
 Jim and Becky Chipman celebrate their 50th anniversary on July 19



WE CELEBRATED THE BAPTISM of Cale Owen Botine on June 29. Cale was born March 11, 2025 in Council Bluffs. His parents are Nate and Lauren Botine. Sponsors are Matt and Kaylee Botine and Brian and Kelli Borkowski.

With Sympathy

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Doris Towne who died on June 16. Her funeral was held June 20 at Immanuel.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Dr Bruce Havick who died June 21. His funeral was held June 26 at Immanuel.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Christine Jones who died June 24. Her visitation was J held on June 2 at Immanuel. Her funeral was held on July 3 at St. John Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs.

ON OUR PRAYER LIST: Ellie Nelson, Linda Christensen, Ruthe & Pat Pattison, Dave Pedersen, Judy Pedersen (the death of her niece Jennifer Watts), Phil Smith, Arlynn Gittins, Kayla Weis, Kay Koos, Connie & Ed Benson, Megan Leslie (Steve Allen's niece), Ken Johannsen (Seth Johannsen's father), Dan Abendroth (Sandy Sisson's brother), Denny Porter (Sue Olson's brother-in-law), Dave Burmeister (Sue Olson's son-in-law), Pastor Joseph Lali (Kelly Mure's uncle in Ethiopia), Jared Walters and Jesse Hansen (serving in the Iowa National Guard on deployment)





**Pastor Jon Benson's Retirement Celebration
July 19 & 20 2025**

After services at St John Lutheran Church

Saturday, July 19 after the 5:30 service there will be heavy Hors d'oeuvres.

Sunday, July 20 after the 9:30 service there will be brunch.

Please plan to attend one of the receptions.



RSVP needed by July 13

Contact the church office by email or phone.

info@saintjohnelca.org

712-323-7173

If you can't attend and would like to send a greeting card, please send to:

Saint John Lutheran Church

533 Willow Ave

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

Doing Ministry on the Frontier of the Clergy Shortage

The shortage of trained pastors in rural regions is growing. How can we meet the challenges of this time? The Heartland District invites you to join together with your ministry partners from Nebraska, Kansas, and surrounding areas to find encouragement and insight for the challenges ahead. Working together we can become more of the Church that the Holy Spirit is calling us to be in these times.

Dr. Dawn Spies will speak on "Leading through Church Conflict." Pastor Randy Freund will speak on "Creative Ways of Filling Pulpits." There will be breakout sessions on "Multi-point Ministry," "The Difference between certified calls and contract calls in LCMC," "Intentional Interim Ministry," "Thinking Outside the Box: Lay Ministry and More," "Finding Your Next Pastor," and "Care of Souls."

SOUTH SUDANESE FELLOWSHIP NIGHTS: ILC hosts quarterly fellowship gatherings with our South Sudanese friends. Recently about 40 folks had a picnic at Prairie Rose. New folk are welcome to join us.

If you would like to be on the email list, contact the church office.

VACUUM CLEANER

If anyone is interested there is still one vacuum cleaner available . You are welcome to come look at it in the church office. .



JUNE COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Immanuel Council met June 10 with 10 of 12 members present. Vicki Strissel led devotions from one her favorite books, The One Truth, which is a series of action plans to bridge the gap between knowing and doing. Joey Hansen will lead devotions in July. Dave Greve, John Taggs, Todd Madsen, Joey Hansen, Eric Chipman, Vicki Strissel, Kirk Jacobson, and Craig Olson volunteered for deacon duties in July and August.

Treasurer's Report: May income was \$18,640 and expenses were \$19,188 leaving a loss of \$548. May YTD income was \$124,330 and expenses were \$126,692 leaving us at a negative of \$2,361. General Fund balance is \$70,222 plus \$25,000 totaling \$95,222 and the Capital Savings balance is at \$82,075.

Fellowship/Education – JAM, GROW, and LYO all saw growth in numbers this past year. Next year GROW will include 6th graders again as their numbers are too small for the confirmation program. VBS had 54 children in attendance with good support from adult and youth volunteers. We have had 18 children/youth signed up to go to camp this summer.

Property: Ken Nielsen took down the partition in the new library and did some electrical work. Carpet will be ordered.

Executive: We are still short of keys for the outside doors. These keys cannot be duplicated. We will need to create a sign-out system for keys and for the Hy-Vee charge card.

Pastor: Recommended Lusiya Lena, Sani Mora, and Issa Nege for membership. They come from South Sudan and Ethiopian churches. Council approved. Thanks to Kayla Jacobs for leading worship on June 21. Will be away July 11-13. A video sermon is planned for that weekend. Will be in Africa July 21 to August 2. Shari Munyon will lead worship for July 27. There will be no Saturday evening worship on July 26 and August 2.

Old Business: Council accepted the Goede bid of \$22,120 for the HVAC systems for 4 rooms on the main floor of the education wing. Council approved donation of LED lights for the chapel. Seeking 2 bids for stripping and waxing fellowship hall floor.

New Business: Council offered the position of office administrator to Diane Greve.

WORSHIP & GIVING

	<u>Attendance</u>				<u>General</u>	<u>Refugee</u>
May 31-June 1	25	+	104	= 129	\$ 6910.00	\$ 115.00
June 7-8	25	+	140	= 165	\$ 5265.00	\$ 75.00
June 14-15	24	+	95	= 119	\$ 2331.50	
June 21-22	15	+	115	= 130	\$ 4925.00	\$ 240.00
June 28-29	23	+	99	= 122	\$ 1847.00	

Camp Support \$1200.00 TZ Wells \$500.00 TZ Bibles \$150.00 Missions \$500.00



ILCW

ILCW EXECUTIVE BOARD

June 11, 2025



The ILCW Executive Board met Wednesday June 11 in the narthex with Sandy Nelson, Kathy Block, Janet Johannsen, Sharon Daberkow, Jean Whitfield, Sally Nairn and Julie Vorm present. Sandy called meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: After review of May minutes, Jean motioned to approve, Sally seconded. Ayes all.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy reported donation of \$125 for serving a funeral bringing May balance to \$2009.32. There were no bills.

CORRESPONDENCE: Four Thank You's received for May Day bags. All posted on bulletin board.

COMMITTEES: **Community:** July 8 there will be bingo at Elm Crest. **Mission Quilters:** 4 quilts completed.

OLD BUSINESS: **VBS:** Thank you for money and food donations for snacks and for volunteer workers.

NEW BUSINESS: **August 13 Gathering:** Sign up sheet for food was passed. **Camp:** Donations were accepted to cover costs of registrations for those attending summer church camp this year.

Bazaar: **October 15 from 11-1:00.** Chairpersons for various areas needed. Tickets will be \$15 each.

NO JULY ILCW **JULY 22 BUNCO 2:00** **JULY 28 MISSION QUILTERS 1:00** **AUGUST 13 ILCW 5:15**

Janet Johannsen,
Secretary



ILCW GATHERING

Sharon introduced Linda Hopp's "Tanzania Facts, Fabrics and Fun Retreat" program with eighteen attending in the chapel. Lots of beautiful hand created Tanzania fabric/projects were displayed. **Fact:** In 1963 Tanzania became an Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT). Our connection w/Kidugala was through Pastor Heather while in seminary and in 2005 Cheryl Chipman traveled to Tanzania to meet these people. Carol Joy Holling of Ashland NE had traveled there as well. Young girls had no income so Carol was inspired to create a way to help the girls of Tanzania earn income to continue their education. **Fabric** hand created there was purchased, brought back to America and made into kits. A **Fun Retreat** began by taking reservations where the fabric kits could be purchased, then spending 3 days enjoying the time creating. Tanzanian Treasures Fabric is a mission project of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Omaha with 50% of the purchase price going to the Tanzanian Scholarship Fund and 50% to Tanzanian Artisans. In 2024 there were 9 recipients from Mt Kilimanjaro area. Five women studying at Women's Training Center with two studying cooking/catering, 2 in tailoring/fabric dying and 1 in hotel management. Two are in a 2 yr live in Montessori Teacher Training program and 2 are at Machame Nursing 3 yr live in program. Anyone can purchase fabric just by going to the conference center during a retreat. Next retreat is Feb 8-9-10, 2026. Excellent program-thank you! At program end we enjoyed delicious treats by Kathy in the Fellowship Hall. Sandy thanked all who helped with VBS in any way. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



TANZANIA

HAPPENINGS



SAVE THE DATE

20th Anniversary of Immanuel/Kidugala Partnership

August 17, 2025

9:00 AM Celebration Worship

10:15 AM Program with Ambassadors

11:00 AM Catered Meal at Immanuel's Fellowship Hall

Join us to celebrate with our Kidugala Ambassadors

20 years ago, Cheryl Chipman traveled to Tanzania to connect with our sister parish in Kidugala. And thus began a friendship and a partnership that has blessed people here and in Tanzania. We have sent numerous ambassadors to Kidugala and welcomed back several groups of ambassadors from Kidugala. God has blessed our gifts to enable our Kidugala partners to help orphans attend school, equip the community medical clinic, make agricultural improvements, connect Kidugala with a microloan program, drill wells, provide Bibles to confirmation students, bikes for evangelists, and so much more. Our Kidugala friends have blessed us with the prayers, their friendship, their example of joyful faith.

We are working to enable up to 3 ambassadors to come to Harlan this August. There will be opportunities to invite them into the life of our community and congregation. Pastor Phil is hoping to teach us a song in Swahili this summer so that we can surprise our guests.



Immanuel
Lutheran Church
LCMC
1700 19th Street
Harlan, IA 51537

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office: 712-755-5207

Office Hours: 9-1(M-F)

Office Email: ilc@fmctc.com

Pastor Phil's Cell Number: 712-579-2098

Home Number: 712-766-3178

E-mail: peacephillip@gmail.com

www.harlanimmanuel.org

Staff:

Pastor Phil Nielsen

Office Manager: Rachel Block

Custodian: Slava Aleev

JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:00 CF Quilters 6:00 Worship Committee	2	3	4 4th OF JULY OFFICE CLOSED	5 5:00 Communion
6 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	7 6:00 TZ Committee	8 9:00 CF Quilters 6:30 Executive Bd 7:00 Church Council	9	10	11	12 5:00 Worship
13 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY	14 12:30-3:00 Twirling Camp	15 9:00 CF Quilters 12:30-3:00 Twirling Camp 2:30 ILCW Community Comm.at ElmCrest	16 12:30-3:00 Twirling Camp	17 12:30-3:00 Twirling Camp Newsletter Deadline 6:30 Ladies Homestead Gathering	18 12:30-3:00 Twirling Camp	19 5:00 Communion
20 9:00 Communion 10:00 Fellowship Coffee 10:15 Adult Bible Class	21	22 9:00 CF Quilters 2:00 Bunco	23	24 Assemble Newsletter	25	26 NO 5:00 SERVICES
27 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Coffee NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY	28	29 9:00 CF Quilters	30	31		

Worship and Fellowship Servants Schedule

	July 5-6	July 12-13	July 19-20	July 26-27	August 2-3
Sunday Acolytes	Cade Neve Zoey Olson	Jace Palmer Maggie Petersen	Harper Petsche Leah Svendsen	Rex Swanson Abbey Brue	Collin Burchett Will Chipman
Saturday Greeter/Usher	Gayl/Dalton Jensen	Mert/Diane Kastens	Larry Klein	Randi McEvoy	Kurt Musfeldt
Sunday Greeter/Usher	Terry/Karlene Jacobsen	Paula and Harrison Kjergaard	Janelle Leinen Jonas Reynolds	Steve and Julie Livingston	Jon and Kara Meiners
Saturday Altar Guild	Sandy Nelsen		Cheryl Nielsen		Maggie Hatcher
Sunday Altar Guild	Vicki Strissel Mary Taggs		Stacy Torneten Jan Applegate		Kathy Block Cora Chapman
Sunday Scripture Reader	Verne Nelson	Craig Olson	DeAnn Nielsen	Judi Olson	Mitch Petersen
Sunday Communion Servers	Julie Vorm Dave Greve		Jim/Becky Chipman		Ron Block Larry Haas
Sunday Coffee Hosts	Ilene/Verne Nelson	Craig/Judi Olson	Kris Olson-Harmon	Karma Petersen Megan Shannon	Lavera, Angel, Katie Stern
Sound	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Seth Johannsen
Video	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Alan Ahrenholtz	Grant Chipman
Projection	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)	Cheryl Nielsen (Sat.) Teri Johnson (Sun.)
Council Person	Dave Greve	John Taggs	Todd Madsen	Joey Hansen	Eric Chipman